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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,219	09/10/2003	Andre Jeutter	2001P17947WOUS	5692

7590 08/09/2007  
SIEMENS CORPORATION  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPT.  
170 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH  
ISELIN, NJ 08830

EXAMINER
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WONG, EDNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1753

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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08/09/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/659,219	<b>Applicant(s)</b> JEUTTER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Edna Wong	<b>Art Unit</b> 1753	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-14 and 16-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-14 and 16-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

This is in response to the Amendment dated July 9, 2007. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

***Response to Arguments***

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

I. Claims **1-2 and 4-18** have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-18 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, has been withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment.

II. Claims **13 and 15** have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The rejection of claims 13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, has been withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment.

III. Claim 15 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, has been withdrawn in view of Applicants' amendment.

***Response to Amendment***

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

I. Claims 1-2, 4-14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

**Claim 1**

lines 8-9, recite "without homogenizing a region of the substrate located laterally adjacent the homogenized region".

**Claim 13**

lines 9-10, recite "without homogenizing a region of the located laterally adjacent the homogenized region".

Claim 14

lines 9-10, recite "without homogenizing a region of the substrate located laterally adjacent the homogenized region".

Applicants' specification, pages 1-5, does not mention without homogenizing a region of the substrate located laterally adjacent the homogenized region in the method. Thus, there is insufficient written description to inform a skilled artisan that applicant was in possession of the claimed invention as a whole at the time the application was filed.

However, there is sufficient written description for homogenization of the element distribution as mentioned on page 2, lines 19-20; and homogenization in the near-surface region, the layer being fused, for example at and/or under the surface, as mentioned on page 5, lines 1-2. Also, these descriptions have nothing to do with the substrate.

The Examiner has carefully considered the entire specification as originally filed, however, there is found no literal support in the specification for the limitations in amended claims 1 and 13-14. Applicants have not provided the page number and line numbers from the specification as to where the newly amended limitations are coming from. *Ex parte Grasselli*, 231 USPQ 393 (Bd. App. 1983) *aff'd mem.* 738 F.2d 453 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

II. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 13

lines 9-10, it is unclear what is meant by "the located".

***Allowable Subject Matter***

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 1-2, 4-12 and 16-18 define over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for coating a substrate having at least one hole, comprising the steps of covering, applying and irradiating as presently claimed, esp., the step of irradiating a near-surface region of the coating layer to improve adhesion of the coating layer to the substrate, and to ensure homogenization of the coating layer without homogenizing a region of the substrate located laterally adjacent the homogenized region.

Claim 13 defines over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for coating a turbine component having at least one hole, comprising the steps of covering, applying and irradiating as presently claimed, esp., the step of irradiating a near-surface region of the coating layer to improve adhesion of the coating layer to a substrate of the component, and to ensure homogenization of the

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coating layer and without homogenizing a region of the component located laterally adjacent the homogenized region.

Claim 14 defines over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a method for recoating a substrate, which has already been used and having at least one hole, comprising the steps of covering, applying and irradiating as presently claimed, esp., the step of irradiating a near-surface region of the coating layer to improve adhesion of the coating layer to the substrate, and to ensure homogenization of the coating layer and without homogenizing a region of the substrate located laterally adjacent the homogenized region.

The prior art does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above. *JP 1-100302* does not teach without homogenizing a region of the component located laterally adjacent the homogenized region. *JP 1-100302* teaches that both the hard substance and blade mother metal are melted and fused on the surface of the blade. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

Claims 1-2, 4-14 and 16-18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edna Wong whose telephone number is (571) 272-1349. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for



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published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

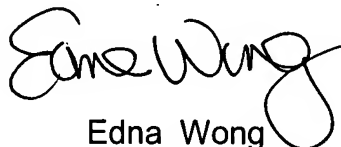
For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edna Wong". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "W" and a cursive "E".

Edna Wong  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1753

EW  
August 6, 2007